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#4/th who

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

LINDSEY et al.

Group Art Unit: 2731

New Application

Examiner: Ngo, R.

Divisional of 08/861,438 filed 5/21/1997

(Allowed 11/7/2000)

Filed: February 6, 2001

Docket No. 100.229

Customer No. 023907

For:

METROPOLITAN AREA NETWORK SWITCHING SYSTEM AND METHOD OF

**OPERATION THEREOF** 

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows: